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C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 002670

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/21/2013

TAGS: PREL KPAL NL UNGA

SUBJECT: DUTCH PLANS FOR UNGA MIDDLE EAST RESOLUTIONS

REF: A. SECSTATE 296471

1B. SECSTATE 296490

Classified By: A/PolCouns ...

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2003-10-21

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Embassy The Hague

CONFIDENTIAL

03SECSTATE296471

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Classified By: A/PolCouns Nathaniel P. Dean Reason 1.5 (b)

(C) The GoNL will either abstain or vote no today (10/21) on an UNGA resolution seeking an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice on whether the Israeli barrier currently being built must be taken down. The GoNL has yet to decide how it will vote on the resolution to declare Israel in violation of international law due to the fence. Pieter Ramaer, head of the MFA's UN Political and Judicial Division, reported that the EU wants to avoid a split vote; however, it may very well occur. EU countries will meet at 9:00 EST on 10/21 to further discuss the resolution. Ramaer reported the Dutch are currently uncomfortable with some of the text. (Note: Ramaer only elaborated by stating that the Dutch are reviewing the wording used in the naming of terrorist organizations. End note.) Ramaer stated that nevertheless if the text of the resolution was decent, the GoNL would be inclined to vote favorably for the resolution. He said that several EU states are strongly inclined to vote in favor of the resolution, no matter the text.

SOBEL